

Teaching Sound-by-Sound and Whole-Word Blending

These two blending strategies can be taught using the following simple teaching plans:

Sound-by-Sound (Final) Blending

- Step 1: Write *s*. Point to the letter and say /s/.
- Step 2: Write *a*. Point to the letter and say /a/.
- Step 3: Slide your finger under the letters *s*, *a* and blend them together to say /sa/.
- Step 4: Write *t*. Point to the letter and say /t/.
- Step 5: Slide your finger under the letters *s*, *a*, *t* and blend them together to say /s/ /a/ /t/.
- Step 6: Circle the word with your finger and say: *The word is sat.*

Whole-Word (Successive) Blending

- Step 1: Write *sat*.
- Step 2: Slide your finger under each letter as you slowly say and extend the sound that each letter stands for, /s/ /a/ /t/ (*sssaaattt*). Don't pause between sounds.
- Step 3: Slowly compress the extended word, *sssaaattt*, *ssaatt*, *sat*.
- Step 4: Circle the word with your finger and say: *The word is sat.*